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PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Makoto AOKI

Confirmation No. 6951

Serial No. 09/900,978

Group 2673

Filed July 10, 2001

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In compliance with Rules 1.97 and 1.98, and in fulfillment of the duty of disclosure under Rule 1.56, the accompanying documents, copies of which are attached to this statement, are made of record on the enclosed Form PTO-1449.

A concise explanation of the relevance of these items is that these references were cited by the Korean Patent Office in the corresponding Korean Application No. 10-2001-004766. A copy of the Korean Official Action, with a Japanese translation, is attached hereto, with what is believed to be the pertinent portion enclosed in a wavy line. An English translation of the enclosed portion is also attached hereto.

Japanese Patent Appln. No. 7-271325 corresponds to the prior art reference cited in the Korean Office Action.

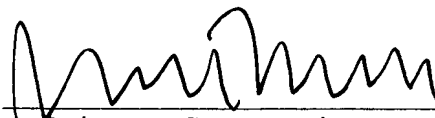
Under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97(e), the undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a

counterpart foreign application not more than three months
prior to the filing of this Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert J. Patch', written over a horizontal line.

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December 30, 2003